

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested. Claims 1-11 and 15-35 remain pending, in which claims 19-33 are withdrawn. By this communication, claims 1-11, 15-18, and 34-35 are amended and claims 12-14 are cancelled.

Objection to Drawings

The drawings are objected to because they do not include certain reference numerals mentioned in the description and because they include certain reference characters not mentioned in the description.

Applicants have amended the specification to include previously omitted reference numerals/characters 159 (of Figures 1 and 2), and 809 and 815 (of Figure 8). Applicants have also amended the specification to correct reference numeral 114 to be reference numeral 115 (see Figure 1). Further, Applicants have submitted a replacement Figure 3 that contains the previously omitted reference numerals/characters 301, 303, 305, 307, and 309.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the objection to the drawings be withdrawn.

Specification Objections

The specification is objected to because of minor typographical and other errors. Applicants have amended the specification to correct the errors indicated by the Office. Applicants have further corrected other minor errors that were noticed and hereby confirm their willingness to cooperate with the

Office in the identification and correction of further minor errors within the specification. Applicants respectfully submit, however, that they are not presently aware of any such errors that would require correction.

The specification is also objected to as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for all of the subject matter of new claims 34 and 35. Applicants have amended claims 34 and 35 to more clearly coincide with the disclosed subject matter in the specification (See specification, pg. 18, lines 9-24, pg. 31, lines 13-25, pg. 34, lines 3-27, and pg. 35, lines 3-10).

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the objections to the specification be withdrawn.

Claims Objection

Claims 2, 5, and 18 are objected to because of informalities. Applicants have amended these claims to correct these minor informalities. Accordingly, withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 34 and 35 - 35 U.S.C. §112, 1st para.

Claims 34 and 35 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph as failing to comply with the written description requirement. In particular, the Office asserts that there is not sufficient written description for the subject matter of the limitation "a background low priority garbage collection utility" in claim 34 or that there is not sufficient written description for the subject matter of the limitation "any other CSS, designated secondary" in claim 35. Applicants have amended claims 34 and 35 to more clearly coincide with the

disclosed subject matter in the specification (See specification, pg. 18, lines 9-24, pg. 31, lines 13-25, pg. 34, lines 3-27, and pg. 35, lines 3-10).

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection to claims 34 and 35 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph be withdrawn.

Claims 5, 9, 11-18, and 34 - 35 U.S.C. §112, 2nd para.

Claims 5, 9, 11-18, and 34 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and claim the subject matter of the invention. Applicants have amended claims 5, 9, 11, 15, and 18 for clarity and/or to correct insufficient antecedent basis issues. The amendments to the aforementioned claims also provide corrections to claims 12-14, 16-17, and 34. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection to claims 5, 9, 11-18, and 34 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph be withdrawn.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by *Koehler* (U.S. Patent No. 6,301,658). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Koehler discloses a method and system for authenticating digital certificates issued by an organization's authentication hierarchy. Figure 2 of *Koehler* illustrates a verification system for authenticating digital certificates issued by a hierarchy of certification authorities (CAs). *Koehler*, col. 5, lines 42-44. The system includes a verification server that manages a certificate repository and a verification cache having entries for verified digital certificates

and certification revocation lists. The verification server receives verification requests from a plurality of clients. *Id.*, col. 5, lines 46-48. A client may be any application or device that uses public key cryptography and requires authentication of a digital certificate. *Id.*, col. 5, lines 48-50. Examples of such applications include an electronic mail application, a mail transfer agent, a web browser, a user authentication server, and an encrypting firewall. *Id.*, col. 5, lines 50-53. The verification server receives each client request and responds whether a particular digital certificate is authentic. *Id.*, col. 5, lines 53-55.

As discussed above, *Koehler* only discloses that the verification server receives verification requests from a plurality of clients (e.g., electronic mail application, a web browser, etc.) and responds to those clients whether a particular digital certificate is authentic. Further, nowhere in *Koehler* is there disclosed a list of approved CAs or the rationale for such list. Accordingly, *Koehler* does not disclose at least "receiving one or more certificate status queries from requesting entities; if the issuing CAs are not found on a **CSS's list of approved CAs** or the certificates have expired, returning invalid statuses for those certificates;...configuring connectors based on the identified information for communicating with the issuing CAs; **communicating with the issuing CAs according to the configured connectors...**" as recited in amended independent claim 1.

Because *Koehler* fails to disclose each and every feature of the claimed invention, *Koehler* cannot anticipate or render the claimed invention as recited in claim 1 obvious to one skilled in the art. Claims 2-15 are also

allowable by virtue of their dependency from independent claim 1, and for the features recited therein.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection to claims 1-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) be withdrawn.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 16-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Koehler* in view of *Konheim* (U.S. Patent No. 4,264,782). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

As discussed above, *Koehler* fails to disclose or suggest all of the features as recited in claim 1, the independent claim from which the rejected claims depend. Further, *Konheim* is not purported by the Office to overcome the noted deficiencies of *Koehler*. Thus, it is respectfully requested that the rejection to claims 16-18 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) be withdrawn.

Conclusion

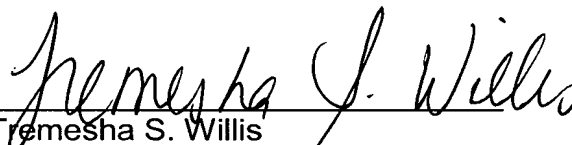
Based on at least the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that claims 1-11, 15-18, and 34-35 are allowable, and that this application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants request a favorable examination and consideration of the instant application. In the event the instant application can be placed in even better form, Applicants request that the undersigned attorney be contacted at the number below.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL & ROONEY PC

Date: August 13, 2008

By:


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AMENDMENT TO DRAWINGS

The attached drawing sheet includes changes to Figure 3 and replaces the original sheet including this figure. Specifically,

Attachments: One (1) Replacement Sheet
 One (1) Annotated Sheet Showing Changes

Certificate Status Store

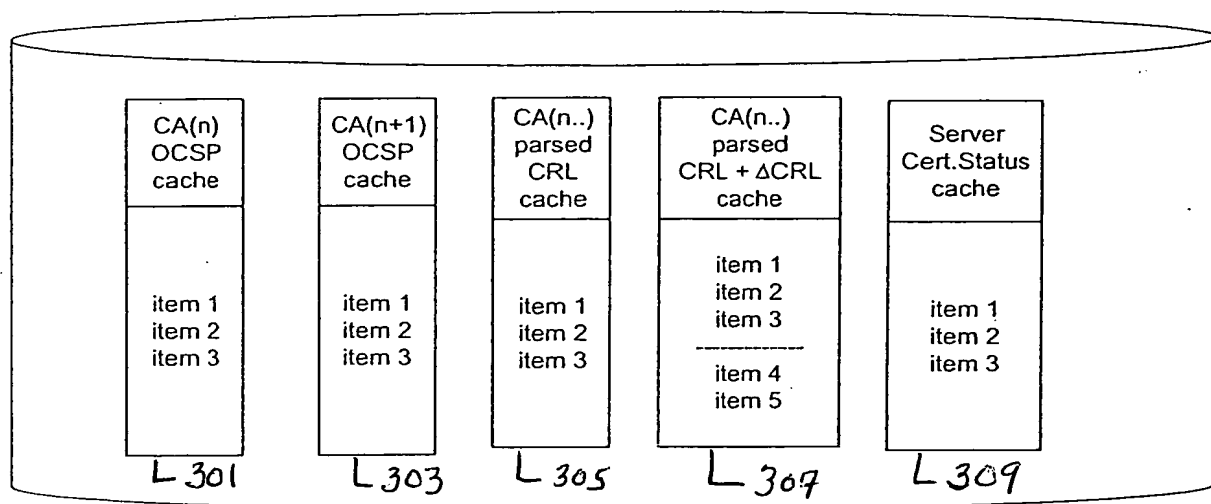


Figure 3